

Letter from Alexander Melville Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, March 11, 1878

Tutelo Heights, Brantford, Ont., Can., March 11th, 78. (No envelope) My dear Al.,

Don't get quite out of the habit of writing to us. A Sunday summary once a month would be very gratifying.

I do not understand the device for shutting off induction-sound from the Telephone, so I have made no attempt at applying them. I like the idea of the tubular, magnet telephone. I sent the specifications to Mr. Williams. I do not know whether he can take out a patent as no drawings were sent. I am told by Mr. Wilkes that the papers would have to be sent to you for your signature and affidavit. I suppose you have heard of Duquet's Canadian Patent for improvements? Duquet was here a fortnight ago to try to make arrangements with us, but nothing has been done yet. His telephone is an impudent piracy. We tested it and found it decidedly inferior to our own. We shall have to go to the Quebec Courts to take out an injunction against him. Business is showing signs of improvement but the Canadians are very slow. Thanks for "Year Book of Facts", "After Many Days", "Annals", Illustrated papers, "Weekly Times" and so forth. The last I have got regularly since its commencement; but your Uncle will be glad to get your copy. I have handed him those that have arrived. letters also received. What do you think of the lucigraphic theory? 2 What about your torpedo? When are you going to try the cable? That reminds me to thank you for your cablegram on my birthday. We did not forget you on the 3rd. Did your ears tingle about dinner time? Mabel must be delightedly looking forward to her mother's arrival. We have not heard of the "Peruvian" with Lewis and our box. I fear they have had a long passage. All join me in best love to you both and hope in due time to congratulate you on a happy event.

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Your affectionate father, Alex. Melville Bell.